

Spill Prevention, Control, & Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan

An SPCC Plan contains facility specific information to minimize the potential for discharge and steps to prevent, control, and mitigate an oil discharge from an aboveground storage tank or container.

Certain facilities with up to 10,000 gallons of oil that meet the “[qualified facility](#)” criteria may self-certify their SPCC Plans. Other regulated facilities must have their SPCC Plans reviewed and certified by a licensed professional engineer; these typically have a total storage capacity of more than 10,000 gallons of oil. All forms of oil, including petroleum, non-petroleum, vegetable and animal oils, must be included on a facility’s SPCC Plan, although there are exceptions under the federal SPCC rule.

For more information on the federal SPCC rule, visit the [US EPA website](#).



Links & Resources

State Law

[Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.67](#)

Federal SPCC Rule

[Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 112](#)

OSFM APSA Website

<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/cupa/apsa.php>

US EPA SPCC Website

<https://www.epa.gov/oil-spills-prevention-and-preparedness-regulations>

US EPA SPCC Guidance for Regional Inspectors

<https://www.epa.gov/oil-spills-prevention-and-preparedness-regulations/spcc-guidance-regional-inspectors>

Qualified Facilities

<https://www.epa.gov/oil-spills-prevention-and-preparedness-regulations/my-facility-qualified-facility-under-spcc-rule>



Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA)

The CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the APSA program element of the Unified Program



Office of the State Fire Marshal
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Who is regulated?

A tank facility is regulated under APSA if

- Tank facility has a storage capacity of 1,320 gallons or more of **petroleum**,
- Tank facility has one or more tanks meeting the definition of a “tank in an underground area”, or
- Tank facility is subject to the federal SPCC rule specified in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 112.

APSA does not regulate certain tanks and tank facilities listed under CA Health and Safety Code Section 25270.2 (a)(1)-(8).

Facilities under APSA may still be subject to the federal Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) requirements under the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 112.



All photos were provided by the APSA Basic Inspector Training Workgroup

What is regulated under APSA?

Petroleum oils/products are regulated under APSA. “Petroleum” means crude oil, or a fraction thereof, that is liquid at 60°F and 14.7 pounds per square inch absolute pressure. Examples of petroleum regulated under APSA are as follows:

- Aviation fuels
- Gasoline
- Diesel
- Other alternative fuels containing petroleum, such as biodiesel (B99, B20), renewable diesel (R6-R99) and E85
- Used oil (petroleum-based)
- Mineral oil (petroleum-based)
- Petroleum solvents

What is not regulated?

APSA does not regulate non-petroleum products or petroleum gases such as:

- 100% renewable diesel or biodiesel
- 100% synthetic oils
- Propane
- Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)
- Liquefied natural gas (LNG)
- Vegetable oil/animal oil

What are the requirements?

Tank facilities pay an annual APSA fee to the Unified Program Agency (UPA) and file an annual tank facility statement or a Hazardous Materials Business Plan electronically into the [California Environmental Reporting System \(CERS\)](#).

Each owner or operator of a tank facility must prepare and implement an SPCC Plan that meets federal requirements.

- * A tank or tank facility located on and operated by a farm, nursery, logging site or construction site is exempt from having to prepare an SPCC Plan under APSA if certain conditions as described in Health and Safety Code Section 25270.4.5(b) are met.

Tank facilities with 10,000 gallons or more of petroleum are inspected by the UPA at least once every 3 years.

APSA Key Terms & Definitions

Aboveground storage tank or storage tank

A tank or container that has the capacity to store 55 gallons or more of petroleum that is substantially or totally above the surface of the ground, including a tank in an underground area. Examples of containers include 55-gallon drums, intermediate bulk containers (IBC) or totes, and oil-filled equipment.

Tank in an underground area

A stationary storage tank located in a structure that is at least 10 percent below the ground surface, including, but not limited to, a basement, cellar, shaft, pit, or vault.

Tank facility

One or more aboveground storage tanks, including any integral piping, that contains petroleum and is used by an owner/operator at a single location. These typically include bulk tank terminals, refineries, aboveground fuel tank stations, vehicle repair shops with aboveground petroleum storage tanks, and oil change shops.

Storage capacity

Aggregate shell capacity of all aboveground storage tanks at a tank facility.